

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 166

By Alexander

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Ruth Verhegge on her receipt of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those estimable citizens who have dedicated their time and energies to helping others; and

WHEREAS, each year, 1.6 million Tennessee volunteers give over 137 million hours of community service, contributing \$3.3 billion to Tennessee's economy; and

WHEREAS, these volunteers are the backbone of our communities, and by donating their time and talents to fulfill needs that would otherwise go unmet, they embody the spirit of giving; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Verhegge of Jonesborough is one such exemplary person, who is a recipient of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award in recognition of her laudable commitment to her community; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Verhegge began Paws in Blue, a program that raises money to purchase, train, and provide maintenance for K-9 dogs; the Paws in Blue program has raised more than \$75,000, providing enough funds for four K-9 dogs for the Jonesborough Police Department; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her fundraising for the Jonesborough Police Department, Ruth Verhegge raised money for the Jonesborough Flag Project, which allows the 100 flags that line Jonesborough's Main Street to be maintained, replaced, and adopted; she also leads an annual flag replacement ceremony; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Verhegge is a model citizen; her commitment to helping others through volunteerism epitomizes the spirit of the Volunteer State, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor Ruth Verhegge for her outstanding community leadership, congratulate her as an esteemed recipient of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.